

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) A method of sterilizing a foodstuff packaging material comprising passing the packing material through a dip bath liquid comprising hydrogen peroxide and an effective hydrogen peroxide stabilizing amount of a foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid, wherein said dip bath liquid comprises from 200 to 500 ppm of said foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid.

5-6. (canceled)

7. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid is aminotrismethylene phosphonic acid.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein said dip bath is maintained at a temperature of 80 to 85°C.

9. (previously presented) A method for chemically sterilizing a packaging material comprising:

contacting the packaging material with a stabilized hydrogen peroxide solution containing from 200 to 500 ppm of a foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid is aminotrismethylene phosphonic acid.

11. (currently amended) A method for chemically sterilizing a packaging material in ~~high-speed~~ aseptic packaging plants comprising:

passing the packaging material through a dip bath containing a dip bath liquid, wherein the dip bath liquid comprises a stabilized hydrogen peroxide solution containing from 200 to 500 ppm of a foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein said foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid is aminotrismethylene phosphonic acid.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the dip bath liquid is maintained at a temperature of 80 to 85°C.